

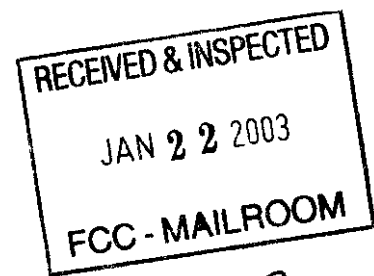
I/15/03

To: FCC Consumer Information Bureau
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

From: Dnuglas Klein
6306 Emerson Dr.
New Port Richey, FL 34653
(727) 849-5125

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JAN 27 2003



RE: Thoughts on the Industry Distribution Center

I strongly urge the Commission not to relax the cross-ownership rules any further! After the last duopoly consolidations took place, media giants became even more dominant. And with new automation, tens of thousands of broadcast jobs nationwide were lost. Now, just a few large corporations control the entire information and entertainment supply chain. They make and shape news, filter what we see and hear, control the advertising market.

For example: look at Clear Channel Communications! Have you seen the percentages of business and market share they control? Clear Channel, along with other giants like Emmis, Cox, Infinity, and Disney are such an overwhelming force; they make it impossible for any independent to compete. Clear Channel controls so much of the nation's broadcast and billboard industry, along with much of the nation's concert promotion business; you can't stage a concert tour or advertise it without them. Any corporation who controls that much of the information supply chain becomes a, "Mr Potter" of the media. And for every corporate media executive who says: "What do we need the measly one-horse institution of the single radio, TV, or newspaper for?". I'll tell you why. To keep the corporate media from dictating ad rates, when concurrent spot breaks air on radio, (forcing listeners to listen to commercials on every station on their presets.) And to keep corporate media from deciding what news is presented, how much and how often. For example: when the cloning story broke, CNN Headline news aired the story in the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd position of each half hour news cast for at least a day. This, without any mention of whether or not the story was credible. Then there was the great hand-washing debate, about anti-bacterial soap versus regular soap. So many cable outlets and networks beat the crap out of this story even though many journalists will tell you it is a moderate story not deserving of all that attention.

Let me give you an example of how hard it is even to get a call from corporate media america for a job. Last August I sent Orlando from Wild 98.7 (One of Infinity's stations in the Tampa-St. Pete market)

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I told Orlando that "he was witness to another exercise in futility. I see your ads. I respond. Nothing happens on my end. You however, satisfy your EEOC quota and then go ahead and hire anyone you want"!.

This prompted a call from Orlando who rang the phone a multiple of times before I picked up. He caught me at my worst. My speech was slurred due to a bioposy done on my tongue two days earlier. It was obvious he was not impressed and although I contacted him when my speech cleared, he has yet to return my call. I now have a quarter inch stack high of rejection letters from Infinity. So many, in fact: they stopped using logo paper to send mine out.

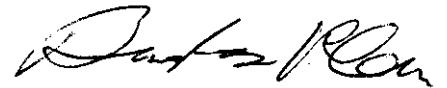
Maybe it's time government protected broadcast outlets be subjected to the same type of consolidation the private media has gone through. In this time of tight federal budgets, perhaps it is time to rework the PBS and NPR networks. I believe there are too many PBS stations nationwide. If you sat down and looked at all the duplicate programing on PBS, you might think about consolidating PBS into hyper-markets. (Combining the Chicago and Milwaukee markets with an increased power antenna and transmitter inbetween, Located in Waukegan, perhaps at the old Johns-manville site or the on the site of the mothballed nuclear plant in Zion). And to help pay for the cost of new construction, ask local radio stations to join on the tower, to help defer some of the cost. The hyper-market theory could work in a lot of places where suburban sprawl has nearly joined markets into a sea of low and medium density places. Get out your Rand McNally road atlas and follow with me!.

Gulf coast Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, (including Pensacola, Mobile, Pascagoula, Bolixi). California Bay area, (Including San francisco, Oakland, San Jose, Sonoma, Napa, and Marin Counties). Hartford Conn. and Springfield Mass.. (and surrounding communities). Boston metro should include Nashua, New Hampshire. Philadelphia should include Wilmington Delaware, (if it does not already). Tampa-St. Pete. Florida does not need WEDU, and WUSF, one will suffice. Also in Florida group Orlando metro and Daytona. Gainesville and Ocala. Also in Illinois, one PBS and NPR station centrally located near Lincoln should cover Peoria, Bloomington, Springfield, Decatur, and Champaign-Urbana. In Louisiana, Baton Rouge and New Orleans. Baltimore Maryland and Washington DC, In Michigan, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Kalamaeoo, Battle Creek, and Jackson. Also, Midland, Bay City, Saginaw and Flint. In Minnesota expand Twin Cities coverage to Include St. Cloud. and also pair Rochester and Lacrosse Wisconsin. Mississippi, Jackson, Meridan, and Hattisburg. Eastern North Carolina, Rocky Mount, Greenville Wilson, Kinston and Goldsboro. Also Wilmington and Jacksonville. Cleveland Ohio to include Akron, Massilon, Canton, Warren and Youngstown. Toledo should be folded into Detroit metro. Western Pennsylvania, Altoona and johnstown. Eastern Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, York, Lancaster and Lebanon, then Allentown and Reading. Texas, San Antonio and Austin. Virginia, Roanoke, Lynchburg,

West Virginia, Charleston and Huntington. Wisconsin and Illinois, Rockford, Janesville and Madison.

These consolidations will cost jobs. No doubt, it will be painfull. However the goverment in the long run will be better off for the cost savings, updated technology, and opportunity for local private stations in those areas to increase coverage and inmprove signal quality in areas they could not reach before.

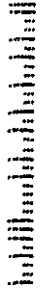
Please, Do NOT allow any further private media consolidation happen. Newspapers and Magazines, the weak link in the media chain; suffer now. However they may enjoy a rebirth in the form of broadband website access. As the internet ages, fees for its use should drop, and the number with access will increase. The "paperless" newspaper will happen, weither it is from the new or through new re-printable, reusable newsprint. The technology for this is close. The turn-around will happen. Please, keep in place some semblence of independent thought in this country's media.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas Klein", with a stylized, cursive script.

Douglas Klein

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer Information Bureau
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Washington, DC 20554

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